



# PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHT STATION

4931 South Peninsula Drive • Ponce Inlet, Florida 32127  
www.ponceinlet.org • www.lighthouselocker.org  
(386) 761-1821 • lighthouse@ponceinlet.org

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IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF  
VIRGINIA ANN  
CANEER

1942-2012

LIGHTHOUSE PIONEER,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
&  
FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE  
PONCE DE LEON INLET  
LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION  
ASSOCIATION





Dear Friends and Members,

As many of our longtime members may know, 2012 marks the 125 anniversary of the Ponce De Leon (then Mosquito) Inlet Light Station, and the 40th anniversary of the Preservation Association's incorporation in 1972.

Guiding mariners navigating the treacherous Florida coastline since 1887, the brilliant beacon atop the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse has given hope to thousands, inspired millions, and has served as a symbol of divine guidance for countless more. For many, the Lighthouse stands as a constant reminder that we are not alone in the darkness - that there is someone out there watching over us. For others, this magnificent beacon illuminates the nobility of the human spirit. Regardless of its personal symbolism, few can look upon this beautiful structure with anything but awe.

It is with great sadness therefore that I announce the passing of one of the Association's brightest lights and most influential matriarchs, Virginia Ann Caneer.

One cannot contemplate the many accomplishments of the Preservation Association without thinking of Ann, who devoted more than forty years of her life to saving this National Historic Landmark. A founding member of the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association, Ann not only played a pivotal role in convincing the Town of Ponce Inlet to acquire the Light Station from the Department of the Interior in 1972, but in transforming this once dilapidated facility into one of the most complete and best preserved historic Light Stations in the country as well.

Serving as a volunteer from 1972 until 1985, and as the Association's Executive Director from 1985 until her retirement in 2007, Ann's unwavering commitment helped ensure that the Ponce De Leon Inlet Lighthouse would continue to shine for generations to come. Having forged the Association into one of the most successful and highly respected lighthouse preservation groups in the county,

Ann's dedication and vision continues to inspire others to follow in her footsteps as they begin their own efforts to save lighthouses throughout the nation by asking themselves, "What would Ann do?"

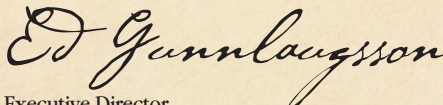
Like the historic light keepers who came before her, Ann watched over "her" lighthouse with ferocious dedication. Fortified by the knowledge that the Association's mission was good and just, Ann never wavered in her commitment and refused "to take no for an answer" when it came to protecting her beloved landmark. You could not help but feel inspired by her steadfast devotion.

I have always considered the opportunity to have known and worked with Ann one of the greatest privileges of my life. I count myself lucky to have called her my friend. Blessed with a heart as big as her home state of Alabama and a love of history that was nothing short of inspirational, you could always count on Ann to greet you with a kind word and caring smile.

Tenacious in her protection of the Lighthouse, compassionate towards her friends and loved ones, and an inspiration to all within the lighthouse preservation community, I believe I speak for all who knew her when I say, "We love you Ann and will always miss you". God speed on your continuing journey.

In honor of Ann's love for the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse her family has requested that donations be made to the Preservation Association in lieu of flowers. Individuals wishing to contribute to the Endowment fund in the name of Ann may do so by logging on to LIGHTHOUSELOCKER.ORG or by contacting the Association directly by phone at (386) 761-1821 or online at lighthouse@ponceinlet.org.

Respectfully,



Executive Director

THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION AND DISSEMINATION OF THE MARITIME AND SOCIAL HISTORY OF THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHT STATION.

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The Light Station is published quarterly by the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association, Inc.

Subscription is a benefit of membership in the Association. The Light Station welcomes letters and comments from our readers.

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- July 16, 2012 Board of Trustees and  
MONDAY Quarterly Membership Meeting  
OPEN TO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
- Aug. 20, 2012 Board of Trustees Meeting  
MONDAY CLOSED TO GENERAL PUBLIC  
AND MEMBERSHIP
- Sept. 17, 2012 Board of Trustees Meeting  
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AND MEMBERSHIP

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE GIFT SHOP CONFERENCE ROOM.

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**LIGHTHOUSE EVENTS JULY-SEPTEMBER 2012**

**JULY 1-8**

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**JULY 14 (SAT)**

11:30 AM

**AUGUST 7 (TUE)**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**CLIMB TO THE MOON EVENT CALENDAR**

**JULY 3 (TUE)**

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**AUG 1 (WED)**

6:45 PM - 8:45 PM

**AUG 31 (FRI)**

6:15 PM - 8:15 PM

**SEP 29 (SAT)**

5:45 PM - 7:45 PM

**INDEPENDENCE WEEK AT THE LIGHTHOUSE**

Celebrate our Nation's birth at Ponce Inlet Lighthouse with family-oriented activities, workshops, and fun-filled events all week from 12:00 to 2:00. All activities are included with regular admission. No advance reservations required.

**DAYTONA HORN WORKSHOP CONCERT**

Tour the historic Light Station and treat yourself to a live musical performance by the Daytona Horn Workshop in the shadow of Florida's tallest lighthouse. All activities are included with regular admission, no advance reservations required.

**NATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE DAY**

Participate in family-oriented workshops, enjoy turn-of-the-century kid's activities and experience the museum's many offerings in celebration of the 1789 founding of the United States Light House Establishment. All activities are included with regular admission, no advance reservations required.

Climb to the Moon at Florida's tallest lighthouse! Treat your significant other, family, and friends to breathtaking views of the ocean, beach, and coastal wetlands under the golden glow of the setting sun. Toast the full moon as it rises above the distant horizon with a sparkling beverage and enjoy panoramic views of the World's Most Famous Beach under its silvery light. Join the *Old Lighthouse Keeper* as he leads you on your journey into the past and discover the unique history of this National Historic Landmark.

This quarter, we have an extra "Climb to the Moon", with two events in August. Act quickly; these very popular events are filling up fast.

Prices are \$20 per person for Association Members and \$25 per person for non-members. Participation is limited to 25 people per event. Contact Mary at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10 or via email at [mary@ponceinlet.org](mailto:mary@ponceinlet.org) to learn more about this special opportunity. Additional information about the new **Climb to the Moon** program may also be found online at [www.ponceinlet.org](http://www.ponceinlet.org).

**2012 SUMMER & FALL HOURS OF OPERATION**

**NORMAL HOURS OF OPERATION**

MAY 28, 2012 - SEP 3, 2012 Open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. (last adm. at 8:00 p.m.)  
SEP 4, 2012 - MAY 26, 2013 Open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. (last adm. at 5:00 p.m.)

**SPECIAL HOURS OF OPERATION**

**JULY 3, 2012 (TUESDAY)** Tower closed from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. (last adm. at 8:00 p.m.)  
Museum and Gift Shop Open until 9:00 p.m.

**AUGUST 1, 2012 (WEDNESDAY)** Tower closed from 6:45 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. (last adm. at 8:00 p.m.)  
Museum and Gift Shop Open until 9:00 p.m.

**AUGUST 31, 2012 (WEDNESDAY)** Tower closed from 6:15 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. (last adm. at 8:00 p.m.)  
Museum and Gift Shop Open until 9:00 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2012 (SATURDAY)** Tower closed from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. (last adm. at 7:00 p.m.)  
Museum and Gift Shop Open until 8:00 p.m.



# TESTING REPRODUCTION FRESNEL LENSES



4TH ORDER OPF WITH KEEPER

On December 5, 2011, Dan Spinella of Artworks Florida visited the Lighthouse to take light measurements from a reproduction 6th order rotating Fresnel lens in the museum's collection. The sixth order lens was made by Dan and the measurements had been requested by the Coast Guard. Currently, reproduction Fresnel lenses like these are generally not allowed for



PONCE INLET 6TH REPLICA

use in federal aids to navigation. The measurements taken by Dan are part of a Coast Guard investigation into the range of these beacons to see if they perform as well as the modern beacons that are now required in lights that are not designated as private navigational aids.

The Coast Guard is also no longer allowing original Fresnel lenses to be restored to service in lighthouses. The old lenses are difficult to maintain even in restored condition. But the appearance of many lighthouses that function as federal aids to navigation could be greatly enhanced if reproductions of the classical style lenses were allowed, and Dan's measurements are an important part of the performance evaluations.

Our reproduction 6th order lens has 6 flash panels, each with a central bullseye surrounded by two dioptric rings. As each bullseye rotates past an observer's field of vision, the light appears to flash. The central lens acts to focus many of the light rays. The dioptric rings use refraction to direct other rays along similar horizontal paths. Above the bullseye are 5 upper catadioptric prisms, and below it are 3 lower catadioptric prisms. These prisms capture and direct the most divergent light rays by means of both refraction and internal reflection so that most of the light from the central source is directed out in parallel and horizontal beams. The Fresnel lens design allows a high percentage of the exiting light to form a single strong beam that can be seen miles out to sea. Exactly how many miles out to sea our 6th order lens can be detected is determined by converting the light intensity measurements made by Dan.

Many factors can influence the peak intensity of the light flash from each lens panel. The size of the central bulb, the shape and size of the bulb's filament, the speed of rotation, and the process used to manufacture the prisms and lenses all contribute. The intensity of the peak flash of each panel may be slightly different, so an average is computed from all six peak flashes. The peak intensity is the highest light meter reading taken as light passes through the exact center of the bullseye lens. As the lens rotates past the observer's line of sight, the light intensity builds



THE REPRODUCTION 6TH ORDER FIXED AND ROTATING LENS PANELS USED IN REFLECTIONS ON LIGHT EXHIBIT.

until the observer sees the flash at the center. As the rotation continues, the light intensity decreases until it reaches its lowest point at the edge of the panel. Then the light begins to build again. This is the intensity range. The time duration of a panel's flash can be calculated by knowing the range and the rotational speed. There is also a vertical intensity range as the lens rises above or falls below the observer's line of sight.

Dan set up his test in our darkened maintenance shop. He had created a fixture with a central light source (a 100 watt incandescent bulb rated at 134 candela) and rotating platform on which to test the 6th order lens. The light sensor was set up at a distance of 3 meters and each panel of the illuminated lens was rotated past the sensor. Each panel was tested at 10 different angles.

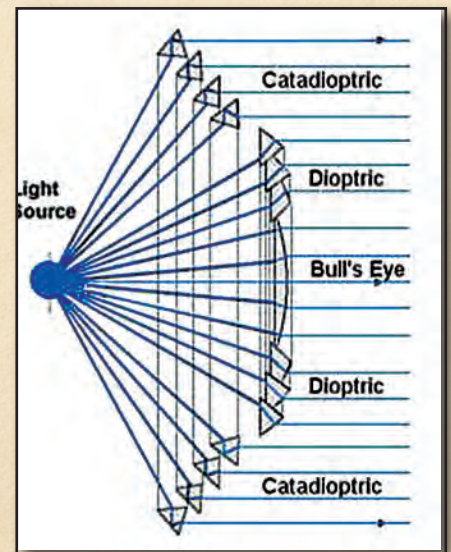


ILLUSTRATION OF HOW A FRESNEL LENS FOCUSES LIGHT THROUGH REFRACTION AND REFLECTION USING DIOPTRIC, CATADIOPTRIC, AND BULLS EYE PRISMS.





DAN SPINELLA PREPARES THE REPRODUCTION 6TH ORDER LENS FOR DISASSEMBLY



THE 6TH ORDER REPRODUCTION LENS WITH THE DOOR REMOVED



AFTER THE LAMP AND LENS ARE REMOVED THE ROTATION MECHANISM'S BEARINGS GO NEXT



THE LAMP IS REMOVED FROM THE CENTER OF THE 6TH ORDER REPRODUCTION LENS



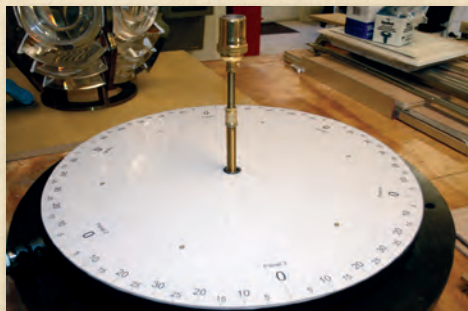
THE 6TH ORDER REPRODUCTION LENS IS PLACED IN A PADDED BOX PRIOR TO TRANSPORT



DAN SPINELLA AND ED GUNN CARRY THE 6TH ORDER REPRODUCTION LENS INTO THE MAINTENANCE BUILDING



DAN SETS UP THE ROTATING TEST PLATFORM



EACH LENS PANEL IS TESTED AT 10 DIFFERENT ANGLES



THE LENS IS INSTALLED ON THE ROTATING TEST PLATFORM



THE INTENSITY OF THE LIGHT EMITTED BY EACH PANEL IS MEASURED WITH AN ELECTRONIC LIGHT METER



DAN SETS UP THE LIGHT METER FOR TESTING



DAN ISOLATES A SPECIFIC LENS PANEL USING A BLANKET TO ENSURE THE TEST RESULTS ARE ACCURATE

>> CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



The light intensity was measured in candela, a light output measurement very similar to candlepower. (A candle emits light with the intensity of one candela when measured in a particular direction.) The average intensity of the flash panel was about 15,000 candela, an intensity that can be seen at a distance of about 12 nautical miles. The Coast Guard will determine if this measurement meets their needs. If it does, the way may be opened to use reproduction lenses of classical Fresnel design inside federal aids to navigation.

Dan Spinella's interest in lighthouse illumination began well over 20 years ago and fit in nicely with his engineering career. In 1992, he was asked by the staff of the St. Augustine Lighthouse to help replace 13 vandalized prisms in their original Fresnel lens. Dan measured the lens and researched Augustin-Jean Fresnel's formulas in order to produce drawings from which the replacement lenses could be made. The Coast Guard had originally wanted to remove the lens from service, but the new prisms allowed the lens to continue to function.

As a lighthouse preservationist and designer, Dan and his company Artworks Florida have worked on numerous projects. In 1999 and 2000, he produced a film for the lighthouse community showing in detail the theory and workings of a Fresnel lens. (The



PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE'S REPRODUCTION  
6TH ORDER ROTATING FRESNEL LENS

film can be purchased from our gift shop or online store. The DVD includes both a technical and "lighthearted" version of the material.) Another Artworks Florida innovation is the ability to cast rather than machine acrylic prisms for existing or reproduction Fresnel lenses. The machining method can produce

acceptable prisms, but machined acrylic is subject to crazing, is not as strong as cast acrylic, and may show machining marks. The Artworks Florida method of casting was the result of over a year of research and allows the maker to add color tints to the mix. The original prisms of the old classical Fresnel lenses were made with minerals like arsenic in the glass formula, giving the glass a subtle color that can now be accurately matched. The reproduction 6th order lens on display at Ponce Inlet was made with this new technique.

To contact Dan, visit the Artworks Florida website at [artworks-florida.com](http://artworks-florida.com) or email to [dspinella@artworks-florida.com](mailto:dspinella@artworks-florida.com). To enjoy some of Dan's work, visit the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station to see the reproduction rotating 6th order lens and to try our new hands-on exhibit Reflections on Light, designed and built by Artworks Florida. If you are a teacher in a nearby county school system, the museum has a traveling Science of Light classroom program featuring hands on activities built by Artworks Florida along with a video and classroom experiments on the properties of light. All materials have been produced in conjunction with the Florida State Standards of Learning. The Science of Light program may be booked by contacting the museum's Programs Manager, at 386-761-1821, extension 18, or by email at [lighthouse@ponceinlet.org](mailto:lighthouse@ponceinlet.org).

## THANK YOU & WISH LIST

This quarter we would like to thank Jim Claffin of Kenrick A. Claffin & Son Nautical Antiques for his donation of the 1907 uniform regulations of the Light House Service. We are also grateful to long-time donors and supporters Jacques and Marion Jacobsen, Earl and Gladys Davis, and Julie Davis for their latest gifts of artifacts for the museum.

We are currently searching for early 20th century household furnishings in good condition including rugs, decorative items, and parlor furniture for display in our First Assistant Keeper's Dwelling. The education department is searching for a working player piano as well as common household items from the late 19th or early 20th century for use in hands-on programs. Our docent volunteers are seeking an angel (or angels) willing to sponsor the cost of lighthouse keeper uniforms for use in museum programs such as Climb to the Moon. Please contact Ellen Henry at 386-761-1821 or [ellen@ponceinlet.org](mailto:ellen@ponceinlet.org) if you can help.



WALL SCONCE FOR OIL  
LAMP DONATED BY EARL  
AND GLADYS DAVIS



LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER HAT  
INSIGNIA, DONATED BY JACQUES  
AND MARION JACOBSEN





Born in Hollytree, Alabama, on February 14, 1942, when the town's population numbered only 40 residents, Virginia Ann Caneer spent her earliest years on her grandfather's farm which had been in the family since 1625. Playing with her two older brothers and her cousins on this venerable homestead, Ann developed a deep love of history as she and the other children hunted for arrowheads, old bottles (often used for target practice) and many other "buried" treasures.

When Ann was of school age, the family moved to Huntsville, Alabama, where Ann attended Huntsville High School. She eventually met and married a Daytona resident and the couple moved to Daytona Beach where Ann went to work at General Electric as a secretary and computer programmer. The couple had a boat and visited the Ponce Inlet area often for camping, fishing, and fun.

Ann's husband's grandfather had worked for 20 years as a caretaker at Gamble Place, living with his wife in the main house. The job was then taken over by an uncle. This family connection introduced Ann and her husband to the Gamble descendants, who owned, among other area properties, the old Pacetti Hotel in Ponce Inlet. The hotel had originally been constructed by the Pacetti family with proceeds from the sale of land to the Government for a lighthouse reservation at what was then known as Mosquito Inlet. When the Pacetti Hotel's caretaker died, Ann and her husband were invited to move into the historic building. Shortly after this move, the couple divorced and Ann Caneer became the permanent caretaker of the Pacetti Hotel. She found herself immersed in the history of the hotel and the nearby Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station. The property was under the care of the Coast Guard which had neglected the facility in favor of a beacon on a skeletal tower that had been erected at the Coast Guard Station on the south side of Ponce Inlet.

Ann recalled that in 1970 vandals were very active at the old Light Station and had even set a fire inside the base of the tower. The historic

# ANN CANEER

## *Lighthouse Pioneer*

third order rotating Fresnel lens at the top of the tower was removed for safe-keeping by the Coast Guard, and concerned town residents blocked up the tower's entrance. Ann decided to help preserve the Light Station by organizing Saturday work parties for her friends and neighbors. They cleaned the grounds and buildings, scraped paint and repainted, and their activities considerably slowed the assaults on the lighthouse. She even convinced the police to drive past the lighthouse every night. When asked what prompted her efforts she said, "I think it was the beauty of the architecture and the romance of lighthouses." She never questioned that they would be able to save the place, but she also said that in the evenings she would sit on the steps of the tower wondering, "What have I gotten myself into?"



Financing the rehabilitation of the Light Station was her most immediate concern. Ann and some of the town's residents formed a telephone committee to solicit memberships in the newly formed Lighthouse Preservation Association. Ann also realized that the Light Station could benefit from a gift shop, and much of her time was spent developing this important source of income. An admission charge was also important for generating enough revenue to carry out restorations, and in 1974, the admission charged was 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children.

From 1970 until 1985, Ann Caneer worked as a volunteer at the Light Station. In 1985, she was hired by the Board of Trustees to become the Operational Manager. Her title was eventually changed to Executive Director, a position she held until her retirement at the end of 2007.

Of her many fond memories about the preservation of this National Historic Landmark, Ann recalled a day when two huge white owls managed to enter the lighthouse through a

broken window. The birds made themselves at home inside the top of the tower. Ann had to climb the tower and gently herd them down to the open door at the bottom.

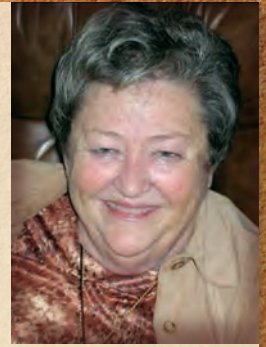
When asked what she felt was her most important legacy, she had many to choose from. Not only was she a leader in saving the Light Station in its entirety, Ann was also responsible for tracking down and acquiring the two original lenses that illuminated the tower. She was able to save many important artifacts related to the Light Station, and she spent nearly 15 years working almost full time without pay. But for Ann, establishing the gift shop was most important to her, because it is an ongoing source of necessary financial support for the museum.

After her retirement, Ann Caneer continued living in the old Pacetti Hotel as its caretaker, and continued to be involved in the preservation and restoration of historic buildings and sites in Ponce Inlet as long as she was able. She returned to Alabama to be with family as her health declined. Ann passed away on April 24, 2012, and the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association lost one of its staunchest advocates.



Devoting more than thirty-six years of her life to the preservation and restoration of the Light Station, Ann Caneer was instrumental in transforming the once dilapidated facility into one of the best preserved and most authentic light stations remaining in the United States. Thanks in large measure to her untiring

efforts, the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1998 and continues today as both a working lighthouse and one of the nation's premier lighthouse museums. Soaring 175 feet into the Florida sky, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse stands today as a fitting memorial to a woman whose dedication and love of history, friends, and family spanned a lifetime. She will be sorely missed but never forgotten.





Each year the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association honors its many volunteers for their significant contribution of time and effort. The Lighthouse's 6th Annual Volunteer Awards Dinner was held on March 31, 2012, at Harbor Village Golf and Yacht Club in Ponce Inlet. As always Advisory Committee member Edson Graham rolled out the red carpet for the Lighthouse volunteers and treated them to a delicious dinner prepared under his careful supervision. In addition to the wonderful meal, volunteers and guests enjoyed the camaraderie of their Lighthouse family as jokes were told and more than a few tall-tales shared to the enjoyment of all.

Following dinner, Programs Manager Bob Callister presented awards to all volunteers with 25 hours of service or more. Joining the trio of top earners Allen Bestwick, Art Hahn, and John Mann with an impressive 1546, 2039, and 2372 accumulated volunteer hours respectively was Advisory Board member and volunteer Judy DiCarlo. One of our most active volunteers, Judy became the Lighthouse's leading female volunteer this year with an impressive 1332 accumulated hours.

Snowbird Allen Bestwick, who splits his volunteer time between the Ponce Inlet and Sandy Hook Lighthouses, has helped the Association develop many of its most popular programs. He can often be found leading tours and talking with other lighthouse and radio enthusiasts dressed in crisp Lighthouse Keeper's uniform. His passion for lighthouses, crystal radios, telegraphs, and almost every other form of communication technology is truly inspiring.

A consummate socializer, Art Hahn is a fixture at the Lighthouse whenever he's in town. Prepared to dazzle visitors with his wealth of lighthouse knowledge and ready smile, Art can always be relied upon to answer questions, lead tours, and conduct educational workshops.

A retired school administrator and avid lighthouse enthusiast, John Mann spends more time at the Lighthouse than many employees. He can always be found somewhere on the grounds on almost a daily basis. His assistance in developing new educational programs, leading tours, presenting lectures, and assisting in myriad of other ways is absolutely invaluable.

Last but not least, Judy DiCarlo has become one of the Association's most active Advisory Committee members. Always ready to lend a hand, her passion for the Lighthouse, the Preservation Association, and its mission to preserve and interpret this National Historic Landmark is boundless. The Association would not have experienced the level of success that it has enjoyed with many of its programs without Judy's tireless efforts.

In addition to Allen, Art, John, and Judy the Lighthouse recognized many others for their selfless contribution of time and effort. The recipients included:

- Claudia Kavanaugh . . . . . (165 hrs.)
- Joanne Roberson. . . . . (250 hrs.)
- Tom Hellum . . . . . (276 hrs.)
- Jennifer Gill. . . . . (426 hrs.)
- Joe DiCarlo . . . . . (433 hrs.)
- JoAnne Hamilton. . . . . (332 hrs.)
- Don Garrett. . . . . (422 hrs.)
- Helen Magale. . . . . (412 hrs.)
- Carroll Hamilton . . . . . (405 hrs.)
- Jackie Mann. . . . . (500 hrs.)
- Gerry Harris. . . . . (534 hrs.)

Although great fun was had by all, we greatly missed our dear departed friend and fellow volunteer Tommy Campbell, who passed away in December, 2011. The "Voice of the Lighthouse", Tommy's southern charm and gentle nature was loved by all. Our sincerest condolences go out to his loving wife Phyllis and his family. We miss you Tommy.

The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association's Board of Trustees, Advisory Board, and staff would like to thank all of these wonderful volunteers for their invaluable contribution towards the organization's ongoing mission to preserve and disseminate the maritime and social history of the Ponce De Leon Inlet Light Station. Without you, none of this would be possible.

Individuals interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse are encouraged to contact the Programs Manager by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 18, or via email at [lighthouse@ponceinlet.org](mailto:lighthouse@ponceinlet.org).



LIFETIME VOLUNTEERS EARL DAVIS, GLADYS MEYER DAVIS AND TONY GIRALOMI POSE WITH PROGRAM MANAGER BOB CALLISTER AT THE 6TH ANNUAL LIGHTHOUSE VOLUNTEER AWARDS DINNER.



BOB CALLISTER PRESENTS AWARDS TO VOLUNTEERS MARSHA LEWIS, JOANNE ROBERSON, AND TOM HELLEM



JOE DICARLO, HELEN MAGALE, JENNIFER GILL, AND DON GARRETT POSE WITH BOB CALLISTER AFTER RECEIVING THEIR AWARDS FOR 433, 412, 426, & 422 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE RESPECTFULLY.



BOB CALLISTER SHARES A LAUGH WITH MARSHA LEWIS (204 HRS), JOANNE ROBERSON (250 HRS), & TOM HELLUM (276 HRS)



# THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE RECEIVES THE FLORIDA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION'S EDUCATION/MEDIA – OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association received a coveted 2012 Education Program Award from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation Association at its 34th Annual Conference in Gainesville, Florida on May 18. The Florida Trust's nine-member panel of judges was effusive in citing Ponce Inlet Lighthouse's extraordinary efforts to bring educational programs to classrooms in Volusia County public and private schools, especially during the last three years.

Florida Trust for Historic Preservation judges commented that "The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse programs *Keeper in the Classroom* and *USLHE Traveling Library* were specifically crafted to answer the crisis of significant reductions in scheduled field trips brought about by school budgetary restrictions. When teachers who would have normally brought their students to the Light Station found themselves unable to do so, Association staff and volunteers responded by bringing the Lighthouse to the classroom." Utilizing worthwhile presentations designed in accordance with Florida's Sunshine State Standards and the Association's mission to preserve and disseminate the maritime and social history of the Ponce De Leon Inlet Light Station, students were taught concepts and skills appropriate to their specific grade level.

In 2007, Preservation Association staff realized that developing budgetary restrictions within the Volusia County School System resulting from the faltering economy would undoubtedly impact student visitation. For years, many teachers had regularly used their precious out-of-class field trip time to go to the Lighthouse for docent-conducted tours and educational workshops designed

to bolster student appreciation for Florida's rich cultural heritage. Although offered free of charge to all public and private Volusia County School groups for decades, the anticipated budget cuts of 2008 put field trips to the Lighthouse and other locations firmly out of reach.

In response to this developing crisis, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Director of Operations Mike Bennett, Programs Manager Bob Callister and a variety of docent volunteers quickly developed a number of educational outreach programs to serve as substitutes for onsite field trips. Unveiled at the start of the 2008-2009 school year, the Association's newest educational offerings included *Keeper in the Classroom*, the *USLHE Traveling Library Box*, and numerous online lesson plans addressing Florida, lighthouse, and maritime history.

Developed by Mike Bennett, Art Hahn, Bob Callister, and John Mann, *Keeper in the Classroom* utilizes videos, PowerPoint presentations, hands-on activities, and historic reactors to help students develop an understanding and appreciation for the rich maritime and social history of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. Presented by a staff member and/or volunteer docent dressed in a replica 1930 United States Lighthouse Service uniform, *Keeper in the Classroom* has become one of the Association's most popular educational offerings

At the same time, "The Traveling Library Box" actually evolved from American lighthouse history. Beginning in 1876, the US Light-House Establishment supplied reading materials to keepers and their families at isolated lighthouse stations. Delivered via a lighthouse tender in sturdy wooden boxes with hinged doors, light station residents looked upon the arrival of their new library with much anticipation.

Director of Operations Mike Bennett, a former educator and school administrator, stocked the library boxes with dozens of fiction and non-fiction books related to lighthouses, lighthouse families, and lighthouse heroics in addition to numerous activities, games, videos, lesson plans, and other age-appropriate classroom materials.



MIKE BENNETT, JOHN MANN, BOB CALLISTER, AND ED GUNN ACCEPT THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN EDUCATION/MEDIA AWARD FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE AT THE FLORIDA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE IN GAINESVILLE, FL.

Stuffed to the brim, the actual library boxes were designed and built by former maintenance department employee Jimmy Vanover. Modeled after an authentic US Light-House Establishment Library Box in the museum's collection, the new boxes were faithful reproductions of the historic original down to the heavy brass strapping, mortise locks, brass hinges, dovetail joinery, and reproduction USLHE labels.

For the past three years, volunteer docent keepers have traveled around Volusia County leaving the library boxes on loan in classrooms or in media centers for teachers and students to enjoy. "The programs provided access to the Lighthouse when the kids could not come to us. Although nothing can surpass the experience of visiting the lighthouse, *Keeper in the Classroom* and the *USLHE Library Box* have proven very successful in educating students about our history. Student visitation to the Lighthouse may have recovered this past year but the success of these two programs has ensured that our educational outreach efforts are here to stay", said Bennett.

"We are honored to accept this award from The Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, but delighted when we hear from teachers who document how eager their students are to read and write and use our books and our classroom activities," said Ed Gunn, Executive Director of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. "That praise from teachers and students is just as important as recognition from a jury of our peers who recognize that preservation and communication go hand in hand," concluded Gunn.

**FLORIDA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION, INC.**  
 This award is in recognition of the significant achievement  
 in the preservation of Florida's rich heritage.

**FLORIDA PRESERVATION AWARD  
 2012**

**Library Box and Keeper in the Classroom**  
 Presented to  
**Ponce Inlet Lighthouse**  
 In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
 in the Field of Preservation Education/Media

*Arden Hays*  
 PRESIDENT, Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, Inc.

*Robert S. Roberts*  
 AWARD COMMITTEE CHAIR

**FLORIDA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION**



# CAPE SAN BLAS LIGHTHOUSE

Located between St. Joseph's Bay and the Gulf of Mexico along the southernmost tip of the Florida Panhandle, Cape San Blas has the distinct misfortune of having lost more lighthouses to beach erosion than any other location along Florida's coast. The present iron skeletal tower being the fourth incarnation of the lighthouse bearing the name, the Cape San Blas Light Station is perhaps the unluckiest lighthouse facility in US history.

Completed in 1848, the cape's first tower, an 85-foot brick cylindrical tower housing a rotating Winslow Lewis lighting apparatus, stood less than three years before a hurricane destroyed it in 1851. Four years later, a second tower was erected not far from the original.

Illuminated for the first time in November, 1855, the life-span of the second Cape San Blas Lighthouse proved even shorter than its predecessor. Less than ten months after becoming fully-operational, the second tower fell into the sea following a particularly violent storm that struck the area in August, 1886. According to a US Light-House Establishment report regarding the incident, "the sea rose so high that the waves struck the floor of the keeper's dwelling which was elevated 8 feet

above the ground and about 14 feet above the ordinary tides. A lagoon now occupies the site of the lighthouse."

Erected in 1859, the site's third tower stood far longer than the previous two combined. Completed in 1859, the conical brick tower remained in operation until the outbreak of the Civil War when the Chief of the Confederate Lighthouse Bureau ordered the tower's lens removed to prevent it from falling into Union hands. Burned during the war, the Cape San Blas Lighthouse would not return to operational status until 1865. Although surviving the war, the tower could not escape the incessant surf which continued to nibble away at the cape's exposed shoreline year after year. By 1882, the Gulf waters had claimed all but the tower itself. With its base submerged in over eight feet of open water, the third Cape San Blas Lighthouse toppled into the sea on July 3, 1882.

In 1883, funds were once again allocated for the construction of another tower at Cape San Blas. Unlike its predecessors, the new lighthouse was not made of brick but of iron. Standing 98 feet tall, the iron skeletal tower's third order Fresnel lens was lit for the first time on June 30, 1885. Although

originally erected 1,500 feet from the beach, erosion continued to nibble away at the sandy shore. By 1918, less than 150 feet of sand separated the base of the tower from the pounding surf. A year later the decision was made to move the lighthouse a quarter of a mile inland to its current position where continued to serve as an active aid to navigation until its deactivation in 1996.



Plagued by beach erosion for more than 160 years it should come as no surprise that the historic light station is in jeopardy once again. Threatened by the ever encroaching sea, a new movement is underway to relocate the historic structures that comprise the facility to a safer location. Individuals wishing to learn more about saving the Cape San Blas Lighthouse may do so by visiting the Florida Lighthouse Association's website [www.floralighthouses.org](http://www.floralighthouses.org).

## OBJECT OF THE QUARTER

From time to time, visitors to the Light Station may find artifacts, especially in our nature trail area. Discarded objects and remnants of long-buried trash pits work their way to the earth's surface, giving us clues and insights into the lives of our early keepers. During the 2011 Thanksgiving weekend, the Lockwood family of Cincinnati, Ohio, had just such an experience.

Nine-year-old Jacob Lockwood was visiting the Light Station along with his parents Mary and Chris; his sister Sarah, age 7; and his brother Garrett, 11. They had journeyed to the Daytona area to watch Garrett play in the National Youth Football Championship Tournament. When the family had a few free hours, they decided to visit the Lighthouse, and sharp-eyed Jacob spotted an old-looking object lying on the ground near our "theater in the woods." Being a good archaeologist, Jacob did the right thing and turned in the object to a Lighthouse staff member, and we began trying to figure out its use and age.

The object was obviously a handle and very similar to the handles seen on modern dust pans.

A little research confirmed that the handle was indeed identical in size, shape, and material (brass) to the earliest style of dustpans produced for the United States Light-House Establishment before 1900.



MARY, SARAH, JACOB, GARRETT, AND CHRIS LOCKWOOD



JACOB, GARRETT, AND SARAH LOCKWOOD AT THE LIGHTHOUSE

Inspired by the find, Lighthouse staff decided to purchase an historic Light-House Establishment dustpan for the museum. One was located, purchased, and is now in our collection, paired with an authentic Lighthouse Service "foxtail" brush of the style that would have been used with such a dustpan. It is interesting to

note that the handle on our newly purchased artifact had been broken off and soldered back on in a very old repair. Obviously, this was a vulnerable part of the design and later dust pan models produced by the Lighthouse Service had a sturdier handle attachment. These objects, along with the handle found by Jacob, are now on display in the Ayres Davies Lens Exhibit Building.

The object of this quarter's object is to remind visitors of the importance of finds like Jacob's. The item has great relevance and meaning to this National Historic Landmark and we are proud of Jacob for setting such a good example.

USLHE DUSTPAN HANDLE FOUND BY JACOB LOCKWOOD





# JOIN THE PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

## A GENERAL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- Free admission to the museum and lighthouse during regular hours of operation
- 10 percent discount in the museum gift shop and online store
- One subscription to The Light Station quarterly newsletter
- Invitations to special events
- Volunteer opportunities

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

**General** ..... \$20

- The benefits listed above for one individual

**Senior** ..... \$10

- All privileges of General Membership for one individual 62 years or older

**Student** ..... \$10

- All privileges of General Membership for one individual 12 years or older with a valid student identification

**Family** ..... \$40

- All privileges of General Membership for the immediate family
- Immediate family is limited to one or two adults and your children under age 18. Grandchildren are not eligible.
- You will be issued one membership card for each parent, and each card will list the names of your children.
- Child under 12 must be accompanied by an adult



Please complete the entire form to enroll, or join online at [www.poncelighthousestore.org](http://www.poncelighthousestore.org).

### Select type of membership:

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Senior ..... \$10

Student (submit copy of ID) ..... \$10

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Renewal

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Principal Keeper ..... \$500

Corporate Lampist ..... \$500

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**2nd Assistant Keeper** ..... \$100

- All privileges of General or Family Membership
- Recognition of your membership in the quarterly newsletters' 2nd Assistant Keeper List

**1st Assistant Keeper** ..... \$200

- All privileges of 2nd Assistant Membership
- Two gift General Memberships
- Recognition of your support in the quarterly newsletters' 1st Assistant Keeper List

**Principal Keeper** ..... \$500

- All privileges of 1st Assistant Membership
- A personalized guided tour of the Light Station
- Recognition of your support in the quarterly newsletters' Principal Keeper List

**Corporate Lampist** ..... \$500

- All privileges of General or Family Membership for up to five company principals
- A personalized guided tour of the Light Station
- Use of the Light Station's conference room for one meeting.
- Recognition of your companies support in the quarterly newsletters' Corporate Lampist List

## FLORIDA DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION NUMBER AND DISCLAIMER:

Registration #: CH137

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

For family memberships, list spouse/partner and all immediate children under eighteen years of age:

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(List any additional names on a separate sheet.)

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Membership enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please charge my: (check one)

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4931 S. Peninsula Dr., Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

**Thank You for Your Generous Support!**





**PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE  
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SUMMER SHOWERS MAY BRING BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO GET WET! ENJOY DAMP SUMMER DAYS WITH THIS FASHIONABLE RAINCOAT AND WINDBREAKER. CUSTOM MADE FOR THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE AND MUSEUM, THIS LIGHTWEIGHT TWO-TONED WATER-RESISTANT RAINCOAT IS MADE OF 100% NYLON AND FEATURES AN EMBROIDERED IMAGE OF THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE. AVAILABLE IN THREE COLOR COMBINATIONS; BLUE & GREY, BLACK & GREY, AND RED & BLACK.

ITEM #: 326  
PRICE: \$24.99 +SH

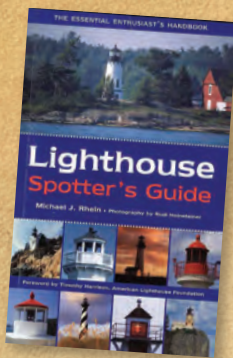


**PONCE INLET  
LIGHTHOUSE  
REPLICA STATUE**

PROCLAIM YOUR LOVE FOR THE HISTORIC PONCE DE LEON INLET LIGHTHOUSE WITH THIS CUSTOM ILLUMINATED METAL LIGHTHOUSE MADE EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION. STANDING 15" TALL AND ILLUMINATED WITH A STANDARD CHANDELIER

LIGHT BULB, THIS UNIQUE PIECE WILL BE A WELCOME ADDITION TO ANY LIGHTHOUSE ENTHUSIAST'S COLLECTION.

ITEM #: 148  
PRICE: \$39.99 +SH



**LIGHTHOUSE SPOTTER'S GUIDE**

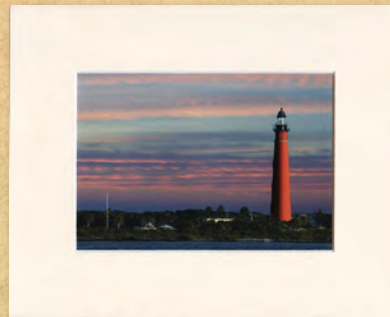
2. FEATURING FULL COLOR IMAGES, DESCRIPTIONS, AND HISTORIC FACTS OF OUR NATION'S MANY HISTORIC BEACONS, THE *LIGHTHOUSE SPOTTER'S GUIDE* IS A MUST HAVE FOR PHAROPHYLES (LIGHTHOUSE LOVERS) EVERYWHERE.

ITEM #: 2875  
PRICE: \$12.95 +SH

**SUNRISE OVER PONCE INLET  
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ENJOY THE MAGNIFICENT BEAUTY OF A PONCE INLET SUNRISE EVERY DAY WITH THIS BREATHTAKING IMAGE CAPTURING THE MAJESTY OF THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE BY DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT AGAINST RAINBOW SKIES. TAKEN BY ACCLAIMED PHOTOGRAPHER CAM CHAPMAN THIS AMAZING IMAGE FEATURES THE HISTORIC PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE ILLUMINATED BY THE RISING SUN AS SEEN FROM THE HALIFAX RIVER. PRE-MATTED, THIS BEAUTIFUL IMAGE IS AVAILABLE IN TWO SIZES; 8"X10" (ITEM # 303) AND 11"X14" (ITEM # 301).

ITEM #: 303      ITEM #: 301  
PRICE: \$19.99 +SH      PRICE: \$29.99 +SH



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STAY HYDRATED DURING THE DOG-DAYS OF SUMMER WITH THIS 24 OZ. ALUMINUM SPORTS BOTTLE FEATURING A SCREW ON LID AND FLIP UP STRAW. THE FRONT OF THE SPORTS BOTTLE FEATURES THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE LOGO WITH THE TEXT "PONCE INLET LIGHT STATION A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK EST. 1887". AVAILABLE IN BLACK, RED, PURPLE, AND GREEN.

ITEM #: 1268  
PRICE: \$12.99 +SH



**CUSTOM PONCE INLET  
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BRING A SPLASH OF COLOR INTO THE ROOM AS YOU ENJOY THE LONG DAYS OF SUMMER WITH THIS CUSTOM HAND-PAINTED SUN CATCHER FEATURING THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE. MEASURES 6.5" X 9".

ITEM #: 310  
PRICE: \$22.99 +SH

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Good from July 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012

The Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Gift Shop specializes in unique lighthouse and nautical themed gifts for people of all ages. Our wide selection includes clothing, house wares, toys, and collectibles including a wide selection of Harbour Lights and other miniatures. Customers may also shop online at [LIGHTHOUSELOCKER.ORG](http://LIGHTHOUSELOCKER.ORG), and place orders by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 21.

Please contact the Gift Shop at (386) 761-1821 or via email at [info@ponceinlet.org](mailto:info@ponceinlet.org) for more information. Usual UPS shipping charges apply to all orders.